

The Athenian Mercury:

Tuesday, August 8. 1693.

Quest. 1. **R** *Eading the Earl of ANGLESEY's MEMOIRS, publisht last Week, in p. 67. I find these Expressions, viz. "I*

"know we should not presume to limit the most Holy God, as to what Instruments he shall or shall not use in the Melioration of Church or State: But the French King is one I never think of without Horrour; nor do I entertain any Idea of God's making any right Lines in the World by so crooked an Instrument. If David must not be allowed by the Course of Providence to Build the Temple, because his Administration of the Government had been so much dyed in Blood, what good to Religion can we Presage from such a Monarch as has made all Christendom almost one great Aceldama? the great God will I believe take his time to make this Monarch share in the usual Fate of Persecutors, how Prosperous soever he may be at present, according to what is commonly observed out of the Heathen Moralists, That the Divine Wheels are grinding, and will grind to Powder, tho' they are slow in Motion. Gentlemen, Your Sentiments are desired upon this Book, and particularly upon these Expressions of his Lordship?"

Ans. My Lord Anglesey was too great a Statesman not to be generally known, and his Observations for so long and active a Life, and in such an high and publick Sphere must needs be answerable; so that all the Ingenious and Learned, particularly those of the Nobler and Politer sort may with great Profit and Delight familiarly converse with so great a Man, in his selected written Thoughts, some of which look a little Propheticall, and afford us very uncommon Notes upon the Reformation. His great Piety, Learning, and singular Moderation, sufficiently recommend him to all Parties; and the Publisher of these Memoirs, who also is a Person of great Learning and Worth, has by affixing his Name to them secur'd all Objections as to their being true and genuine, tho' there's no Person that reads one Page, and has had a just Character of his Lordship's Genius, but might be assur'd that these Memoirs are too peculiar to him to be any ones else. As for our Opinion of the above cited Passage, We pretend not to Comment upon it better than he does himself, the Series of his whole Discourse giving the best Idea of this and other particular Passages.

Quest. 2. *Having read many of your satisfactory Answers on this Subject, yet I never met with any exactly our own Case, emboldens me now to disturb you; 'tis thus, A considerable time since I made my Addresse to a young Gentlewoman, of a sweet and excellent Disposition, and I believe no less Virtuous, and in a short time gained her Love, desiring me if I lov'd her, to make her Parents acquainted with our Design, which I did; after that she grew a little Unkind, to outward appearance, I suppose by her Mothers Advice: In short, she sent me a Letter of Denial, I sent her an Answer, Wishing her all the Happiness I could think of, because I Lov'd her, not doubting but I could mend my self in a Fortune, tho' her Beauty, Wit and Education, are exceeding, I being young could stay to learn the World better, (and am yet unmarried;) she is since link'd to a Man deserves her, and Loves her well, we are, and were, ever since I knew her, intimate with each other, and about three or four Months since, her Father and Mother, she and her Husband, gave me the Honour of a Visit, and at Night at their home this New Married Lady fell into Fitts, (I think they call'd them Fitts of the Mother) tho' she never had any before; and a short time after she and her Husband did me the same Honour as before, and then I waited on them to their home, I took the liberty to*

Conduct her, tho' a Maiden Gentlewoman was with us, and walking a distance from her Husband and the other Lady, recounting some things past, withall expressing her Love to her Husband, and under him to my self entirely, the same Night when I left them her New Acquaintance visited her in a much rougher manner, and oftener than before; and at another time I walk'd with them in the Fields, we had a hard matter to Conduct her home, they came again and were very violent; I left her pretty well, not thinking any thing of the Cause, but a Confident of hers told me very lately that she had something that sore troubled her, and that Matches made by Parents never did well. Now I beg (if you can) inform me the Cause of these Fitts? which is the best way to remove them? whether I can be instrumental, (since I am told they never came above once, but when she sees me) for it affects me much? Gentlemen, I would Oblige you to believe I mean nothing but Honesty and Honour; for were it my own wicked Thoughts, (which God grant may be far from me) her Virtue's too great to permit me to wrong either her self, her Husband, or my own Soul.

Ans. The best Method in this Case that we know of, is to avoid her Company, and all Opportunities either by Messengers or Letters, that may give Occasion to such unhappy Passions: 'Tis well that her Virtue and your Resolutions are just and honourable, and you will do well to preserve both by not administering any Temptation to her in this Case, which in its own Nature deserves a double Care, and a Divine Assistance to go thro' it; and We hope by that Air and Spirit that appear in the latter part of your Letter, you will act in it like a Wise and Good Man.

Quest. 3. It has been my Fortune to fall in Love with a young Gentlewoman, and soon after it so happened we have been a fortnight in one House together in the Countrey, by which I have had frequent Opportunities of making my Addresses to her, and after a short time found her by all her Actions to have the like Passion for me, although in Words the quite contrary: when I come to Discourse seriously to her, she in Words gives me an absolute denial, yet notwithstanding I find she endeavours to be in my Company what she can, and when with me her eye is almost always fixed on me, her Kisses are reciprocal when alone, and all other Freedom which consist with Modesty and Religion are permitted, and yet she affirms that she does not Love me so as to make me her Husband, nor ever will, &c. Now, Gentlemen, having had frequent converse with her ever since my first writing to you, I still find her much in the same Humour, and not knowing how to take it, (and Lovers being commonly a little impatient) your speedy Answer is earnestly desired, *Whether her Words or her Actions are to be esteemed the Sentiments of her Heart?* In your speedy Answer you will much Oblige a real Friend to Athens.

Ans. You write like a Youngster in these Affairs, young Women can't forbear speaking what is far enough from their Heart, a little strangeness, few Visits, or a pretended Voyage, (which you may alledge, you are forc'd to by her Unkindness) will set all to rights, and bring her to speak as she thinks, there's a little Novel, entituled, *Lyfander, or the Souldier of Fortune*, which perhaps gives the most lively Description and Character of a Maiden-Lover, whose Education, Modesty, &c. give a reverse Prospect of every thing, tho' in some Cases there's need enough of great Caution and Prudence, tho' Inconstancy, Levity and Prejudices of our own Sex being so very Notorious.

Quest.

Quest. 5. A Gentlewoman of my Acquaintance who long since made and received a Promise from one, who her Fortune not proving to his Expectation, hath altogether forgot her: Now there is a Gentleman of my Acquaintance also who is passionate in Love with her, but notwithstanding the other takes no Cognizance of her, nor hath done for these several Years; she will not be persuaded to entertain any other, but thinks she is bound in Conscience to continue a single Life. Now, Sirs, I desire your Opinion of her Freedom to Dispose of her self, and also your Opinion of the Gentleman she was Contracted to?

Ans. The Case is very plain, that the Obligation was mutual, and upon Default on either side, the other is free again, and at liberty to act at pleasure: But however in this Case it may not be amiss to take a Confident or two along with you, and go and Discourse the Gentleman about the Affair, and if he persists in his Resolutions of letting the Matter fall, and you have Witness of it, you may then not only act safely by the Law of God, but by that of the Nation too, in disposing of your self otherwise as soon as you please.

Quest. 4. Gens. I am a Young Gentlewoman of a considerable Fortune, my Father and Mother both living, I was promised Marriage by a Gentleman, to whom by much persuasion I granted his desires, and it happened I found my self with Child, I continually desired him to perform his Promise, but he slighted me. And now there is a Gentleman whom I could freely love Courts me, but being in this condition, am unwilling to deceive him, and my Father and he desires me to settle my Affection, and the other Gentleman always upbraids me of my sin with him, so I fear he will not only make a discovery, but render me odious to the World. Query, *What course would you advise me to take in order to give an answer to my Father, and to quiet the tongue of my former unkind sweet-heart. Your speedy advice will abound much to the satisfaction of me your distressed humble Servant, &c.*

Ans. Truly Madam an unhappy case! And so much the more intricate and perplexed since we are unacquainted with the temper and affection of your Father, as well as your Second Lover; if your Father is a wise and prudent Man, much more if he be pious, your best way is to open the Case fairly to him, and no body else (at present) desiring his advice and provision for your secret lying in; which he will assent to for his own reputation as well as yours; when that is over, if your second Lover prosecutes his Amours, you may give him a modest and free Entertainment, but never marry him by any means till you have told him your Misfortune, if he be sincere in his love, and a Good man, he will love you never the less for being so generous and free with him; if he be not so, 'tis not your Interest either to marry or entertain him; for 'tis more than probable if you mention not the Affair, it will by some means or other be known, and then you may easily judge what a miserable unhappy Life you are like to lead; especially if you should marry an ill Man; what repeated upbraidings, private taunts, &c. must fall to your share; and indeed your own reflections upon 'em can bring but little satisfaction, since you would deserve 'em by deceiving your Husband (if any) in pretending to be what you are not, but if the worst is known before hand, you do no injury at all to your Husband (if you marry) since he's at his own liberty to do what he will; tho' after all perhaps a single state may have the least inconveniencies in it for one in your Circumstances, if your Constitution will permit; your business at present is to beg God Almighty's pardon for your sin, and desire his Grace for the future to prevent the like actions. As for your ungenerous first Lover, you will be half Arm'd against his discoveries by this method we have advised; tho' 'tis a surprize to us to think how can be such a Villain to condemn you for an Act which himself is a sharer in, and probably the greatest. What provisions the Law makes against him for his deceiving you, defamations, &c. a Counselor will soon tell you, which is all we can at present advise you in.

☞ Next Thursday will be Publisht, A Directory for Youth through all the Difficulties attending that State of Life. By the Reverend Mr. Pomphret. Price Bound One Shilling Six Pence.

Printed for John Dunton at the Raven in the Poultry.

Advertisements.

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Both Printed for J. Dunton at the Raven in the Poultry.

☞ The Tenth Volume of the *Athenian Mercury*, with a general Title, Preface and Index to it, is now Publisht, Resolving all the most Nice and Curious Questions proposed by the Ingenious of Either Sex, from Saturday, April 8th. to Tuesday, July 11th. 1693. This 10th. Volume, together with the 6th, 7th, 8th. and 9th. Volumes, Compleat the ENTIRE SETT of *Athenian Mercuries* for the Year 1692. Printed for John Dunton at the Raven in the Poultry: Of whom is to be had the Entire Sett of *Athenian Mercuries* and Supplements to 'em for the Year 1691. or single Volumes to this time.

☞ In Grays-Inn-lane in Flow-yard, the third Door, lives Dr. Thomas Kirleyn, a Collegiate Physician, and Sworn Physician in Ordinary to King Charles the Second, until his death; who with a Drink and Pill (hindring no Business) undertakes to Cure any Ulcers, Sores, Swellings in the Nose, Face, or other parts; Scabs, Itch, Scurfs, Leprosies, and Venereal Disease, expecting nothing until the Cure be finished: Of the last he hath cured many hundreds in this City, many of them after fluxing, which carries the evil from the Lower Parts to the Head, and so destroys many. The Drink is 3 s. the Quart, the Pill 1 s. a Box, with Directions; a better Purger than which was never given, for they cleanse the Body of all Impurities, which are the causes of Dropsies, Gouts, Scurvies, Stone or Gravel, Pains in the Head, and other parts. With another Drink at 1 s. 6 d. a Quart. He cures all Fevers and hot Distempers without Bleeding, except in few Bodies. He gives his Opinion to all that writes or comes for nothing.

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